Vol. VII. Numb. 56

# THE OBSERVATOR.

*Reflexions on the Deſign of the* French *to poyſon Prince* Eugene, *and the Elector of* Hannover's *Army. A brief Re-capitulation of the poyſoning, aſſaſſinating, and other tyrannical Practices of the* Rehearſal's *Faction; with a Rebuke to him, for his Blaſphemy and Slanders: And ſome Remarks on her Majeſty's late Proclamation againſt Prophaneneſs and Immorality.*

From Wednesday, Auguſt 25. to Saturday, Auguſt 28. 1708.

*Obſ.* WHAT News from Abroad, *Roger?*

*Country-m.* Inſtead of a Fighting-Story, Maſter, I have brought you a poyſoning one.

*Obſ.* How is that, *Roger?* Do the *French* charge their Muſquets with *Rehearſals?*

*Country-m.* No, no, Maſter, they employ them to much better Purpoſe; and give it in ſpecial Charge to their Emiſſaries, to diſperſe them thro' *Britain* and *Ireland*, leſt the Poyſon of Popiſh and arbitrary Principles ſhould loſe any Thing of its ancient Keenneſs; for you know, it has been ſomewhat blunted of late, by the Battels of *Hockſtedt*, *Ramilly*, and *Audenard*, the Misfortune of the *Spaniſh* Galleons, the Loſs of the prophane Shows at *Bartholomew*-Fair, and a terrible unlucky Paper, call'd, *A Proclamation for putting the Laws in Execution in* Scotland, *againſt Immorality and Prophaneneſs, mocking and reproaching of Religion:* For tho' there be too many bad People among us Whigs, Maſter, whoſe Practices don't at all ſuit with their Profeſſion, yet every Thing done againſt Immorality, Prophaneneſs, and Contempt of Religion, is a fatal Blow to the Intereſt of *France*, and the Pretender, among us; for their Faction conſiſts chiefly of Perſons guilty of thoſe Crimes; and as you have ſeveral Times obſerv'd, a Diſſolution of Manners, and Contempt of Religion, was induſtriouſly promoted among us, in the Reigns of King *Charles* and King *James* the II. to make Way for Popery and Slavery.

*Obſ.* The Practice of their Champion the *Rehearſer*, *Roger*, fully juſtifies the Obſervation; and is a plain Proof, that they are for continuing the ſame Methods ſtill; for he is now come to that Height of Impudence, as in his Paper of the 18th, to ſay, *Enthuſiaſm is more miſchievous in many Reſpects, than Atheiſm*; tho' at the ſame Time, he is very unhappy in the Deſcription of his Enthuſiaſt, and ſeems rather to deſcribe a mad Man, or a raging bloody Papiſt and High-flyer, ſuch as his Country-men and Friends, the cut-throat *Iriſh*, who murder'd ſo many hundred thouſand Proteſtants in cold Blood; *Jeffrys*, of execrable Memory, who hang'd up poor People by Scores, without any Shadow of Law; and the booted Apoſtles of Slavery and Paſſive Obedience in *Scotland*, who murder'd Men and Women on the Roads, or in the Fields; and the *Scotch* Privy-Council, and pack'd Parliament of thoſe Times, who hang'd Men of Quality, and others, without Form of Law; and made it puniſhable by Death, for Presbyterians to meet and worſhip God in Houſe or Field, according to their own Conſciences; and all this was under Pretence of doing good Service to God and the King. So that according to his Deſcription of an Enthuſiaſt, *Roger*, 'tis eaſy to be ſeen which Party abounds moſt with them.

*Country-m.* Why, truly, Maſter, I think no Age can parallel the Enthuſiaſm of him and his Party. Has he forgot, that a Parcel of Enthuſiaſtical Prieſts of his Stamp, were to form a Nonjurant Troop, to hallow a Rebellion againſt the late King *William* and Queen *Mary*, of Glorious Memory? Does he not remember, that three of them abſolv'd Sir *William Perkins*, and the other Plotters and Aſſaſſins, at *Tyburn*, without any Acknowledgment of their Crimes, in order to make them paſs for Church of *England*-Martyrs? And to bolſter them up in their dreadful Deluſions, told them, the next Step from the Gallows would be to Heaven: And was not this abominable Practice of thoſe nonjurant Prieſts, cenſur'd by the Arch-biſhop, and a grand Jury? Theſe Things are too publick to be deny'd, Maſter; whereas he brings nothing againſt the Revolution-Party, but Railing and Lies, and Stories forg'd by ſuch Libellers as himſelf; but the publick Records of the Nation will juſtify what we ſay againſt him, and his Popiſh and tyrannical Faction.

*Obſ.* Come, *Roger*, you will forget your poyſoning Story; out with it, Man.

*Country-m.* You may remember ſome Time ago, Maſter, the publick Prints gave us an Account, that the *French* had corrupted ſome Bakers to poyſon the Bread of the Elector of *Hannover*'s Army; and now the laſt Mails from *Holland* bring us Advice, that a Letter was ſent to Prince *Eugene*, with a Paper incloſ'd, and poyſon'd to ſuch a Degree, as made that gallant Prince, and two or three more, who did but handle it, ready to die; and kill'd a Dog immediately, who ſwallow'd it after 'twas greas'd.

*Obſ.* Practices of that Nature, are common and familiar to the *Rehearſal*'s Faction, and their great Champion, the *French* King, *Roger*. His Concern in the Aſſaſſination-Plots againſt King *William* and Queen *Mary*, appear'd very plain; and had it not been for the Miſmanagement, to ſay no worſe of ſome of the *Rehearſal*'s High-flyers, Col. *Parker*, and his whole Knot of Aſſaſſins, had been taken in a Tavern near *Charing-Croſs*; and we all have heard, that Sir *John Friend*, one of the *Rehearſal*'s Martyrs, and others of that Kidney, contributed to the Eſcape of that villanous Aſſaſſin from the *Tower*, after he was taken. Hiſtory tells us of a black Plaiſter adminiſter'd to King *James* the I. by a Great Patron of the *Rehearſal*'s Faction, becauſe he would not run on ſo faſt in their Courſes as they would have had him. Nor was it without Suſpicion, that his eldeſt Son, Prince *Henry*, the Darling of *Great Britain*, and the blooming Hopes of *Europe*, had his untimely Fate from Poyſon on the Pommel of his Saddle. And the ſcurrilous Reflexions of *Heylin*, (the *Rehearſal*'s Predeceſſor in Malice and Rage againſt all who were not High-flyers) upon the Memory of King *Edward* the VI. who was alſo thought to have taſted of the like Cup, is one Argument among many others, that ſuch Practices are not unacceptable to our High-Church Enthuſiaſts, if they can any Way contribute to ſave their Faction from the Danger they incur by Law, or the juſt Reſentments of Parliament, for their Popiſh and arbitrary Innovations in Church and State. Whether King *Charles* the II. had fair Play from the *Rehearſal*'s Friends at laſt, becauſe he had more Senſe than to run a Muck againſt our Laws and Religion, like his Brother the Duke of *York*, I ſhan't take upon me to determine; but the many ſham Proteſtant-Plots in that Reign, the Murder of the ever to be lamented Earl of *Eſſex* in the *Tower*; which, notwithſtanding the ſtrong Preſumpti-

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ons to the contrary, was fix'd by the Court upon himſelf; and the News of it brought in to influence the Jury, when that noble Patriot, the Lord *Ruſſel*, was upon his Tryal; the murdering of Col. *Sidney*, Alderman *Corniſh*, and *Stephen Colledge*, by wreſted Law; the ſubjecting the Lives and Eſtates of the Greateſt Men in *England*, as the late Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and others, to the Oaths of ſuch *Iriſh* Evidence as the *Rehearſal*'s; and the expoſing of the Liberties and Eſtates of uſeful and peaceable Subjects, to the Oaths of wretched and perjur'd Informers, without any legal Tryal, in thoſe Reigns, are ſo many plain Proofs of the Factions innate Hatred to Juſtice and Liberty, that none but one of the *Rehearſer*'s Front, will offer to deny it, or appear to be their Advocate.

*Country-m.* I have heard, Maſter, that the very Heathens abhorr'd ſuch poyſoning Practices, as thoſe of the *French* King, and his Faction. But you are a better Hiſtorian than I, and can give me ſome Inſtances to prove it.

*Obſ.* I have not Time nor Room now, *Roger*, to multiply Inſtances; therefore ſhall content my ſelf with one which is very well known. The Body-Phyſician of *Pyrrhus*, King of *Epirus*, who was a great and formidable Enemy to the *Romans*, offerr'd to the *Roman* Conſul *Fabricius*, to poyſon his own Prince, and, Maſter, in order to rid them of ſuch a dangerous Enemy: But that noble and generous Magiſtrate, tho' a Heathen, did ſo much abhor the Propoſal, that he ſent back the trayterous Wretch to his Maſter, with a full Account of his Treaſon, that he might puniſh him according to Merit.

*Country-m.* A noble Inſtance indeed, Maſter! which may juſtly put the *French* Tyrant, with his nonjurant Faction here, and their Advocate, the *Rehearſer*, to the Bluſh, had they any Modeſty left them. And I am of Opinion, Maſter, ſince the *French* King is abandon'd to ſuch daſtardly Practices, that the Lord God of Hoſts, who has made him a Rod to chaſtiſe both Proteſtants and Papiſts for ſo many Years, is now about throwing that Rod into the Fire, if the crying Sins of our ſelves, and our Allies, don't prevent it. But if either of us be guilty of oppreſſing Men in their Liberties and Religion, continue to countenance ſuch Oppreſſions as the *Hungarian* and *German* Proteſtants complain of, or don't reform, Bribery, Corruption, buying and ſelling of Places of Power and Truſt, and a few Mens ingroſſing all the Wealth and Power of Nations into their Hands; if we and our Allies ſuffer Factions to monopolize Governments, to ſupport their Underlings in cheating and oppreſſing their Fellow Subjects, and embezling the publick Money, and military Stores; and, in a Word, if we and our Allies don't all concur according to her Majeſty's moſt gracious and pious Proclamation, to diſcourage all manner of Vice, Prophaneneſs, and Immorality, in all Perſons of whatever Degree; or if ſuch bare-fac'd mocking of Religion, as charging *Holineſs with Deformity*, and the ſpreading of ſuch ſlaviſh and anti-chriſtian Principles, as the *Rehearſal* does daily, in his Paper, be conniv'd at, and paſs unpuniſh'd; we have no Reaſon to expect a Continuance of our Victories over the *French*, but rather that their monſtrous, over-grown Tyrant ſhall ſtill be made uſe of to ſcourge us and our Allies into Repentance and Reformation, or otherwiſe to enſlave all *Europe*.

*Obſ.* A good Prince, *Roger*, is the greateſt Bleſſing, next to the Goſpel, that a Nation can enjoy. And ſince her Majeſty has ſet ſuch a glorious Example to her Subjects, and enjoins them to do their Duty by her gracious Proclamations, if we be not wanting to our ſelves, we have Reaſon to expect her Arms ſhall ſtill be ſucceſsful againſt the common Enemy of Mankind, 'till he be as much humbl'd as his Predeceſſor in Tyranny, *Nebuchadnezzar*; or elſe be deſtroy'd by the Hand of a Woman, like that other Tyrant, *Abimelech*. May the Bleſſing of Heaven attend her Majeſty's Perſon, her Arms, and her Councils, to the rooting up of Tyranny and Irreligion at Home and Abroad.

*Country-m.* Amen, and good Night, Maſter.

## Advertiſements.

This Day is publiſh'd,

¶ Poetical Reflexions, Moral, Comical, Satyrical, &c. on the Vices and Follies of the Age. Containing, A Poem to the K. of Sweeden, on his late Victory over the Muſcovites. A Treat by the Planets. On a young Lady ſurpriz'd in her Smock. The Elopement. The Bard, a true Story. The Kiſs, a Song. An Epitaph on my Lady Pierpoint. On the ingenious Tranſlation of Rapin of Gardens, by Mr. J. Gardiner. On three Ladies in a Coach, and the Author in another, in Hide-Park. The Rape of Europa, from the Greek of Moſchus. To my Lady E--- B---, in a Maſk. To the Queen, on her going to St. Paul's. An Elegy on the Death of Bartholomew-Fair. On a Gentleman and his Miſtreſs ſailing to Graveſend in a Yacht. A Copy of Verſes made by a Gentleman, extempore; his Birth, the Death of his Father, (being a covetous Miſer) and his Marriage, happening on one Day. The Letter of Edward the IV. K. of England, to Mrs. Jane Shore, imitated from Drayton. Alexander the Great, ſuppos'd mourning over his Friend Clytus, whom he had ſlain in Paſſion. Part 8. To be continu'd occaſionally. By ſeveral Hands. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row. Price 6 d. where may be had the 7 other Parts, at 6 d. each.

Next Week will be publiſh'd,

¶ Hickelty Pickelty, or a Medly of Characters adapted to the Age, relating to different Perſons and Perſwaſions, viz. A Preſbyterian, or a Female Hypocrite; a Beau; a Whig; a Lawyer's Clerk, or a Pot-Poet; an Attorney; a Detracter; a Bowling-Green; a Surgeon; a Player; a Tavern; a Coquet; a Pinner's-Hall Text-Driver; an unſanctify'd Dun, or a cruel Creditor; a Bayliff's Follower; the Exchange; Will's Coffee-houſe; a Wit; a Flatterer; a High-flyer; a Drunkard; a Priſon; a Courtier; a handſome Bar-keeper; a young Rake; a Whore-Maſter; a Pretender to Learning; a Tobacconiſt; an upſtart Sherriff, or a Country-Juſtice; a Sceptick in Religion; a Stock-Jobber. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Price 6 d.

Juſt is publiſh'd, a new Edition of

¶ The Works of Mr. Tho. Brown, in Proſe and Verſe, Serious, Moral, and Comical, in 3 Vol. 8vo. containing, his Dialogues, Eſſays, Satyrs, viz. On the French King, on Marriage, on Women, &c. Orations, Declamations, Table-talk, Quakers Sermon, and Continuation. Letters both Original and Tranſlations. Letters from the Dead to the Living, in 3 Parts. Amuſements, Serious and Comical, calculated for the Meridian of London, his Common-Place-Book, the Quacks in Faſhion, a Farce, and the London Oracles, &c. with the Life of Mr. Brown, by Dr. Drake. The Works of Titus Petronius Arbiter, made Engliſh by Mr. Wilſon, Mr. Burnaby, Mr. Blount, Mr. Tho. Brown, Capt. Aylofe; with his Life, by Monſieur St. Evremont, adorn'd with Cuts. The Charms of Liberty, a Poem, by the D. of Devonſhire, and a Key to the Satyrs. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row.

### Theſe are to give Notice,

†‡† That Mary Kirleus, Widow of John Kirleus, Son of Dr. Thomas Kirleus, a ſworn Phyſician in Ordinary to King Charles II. ſells (exactly prepar'd) his famous Drink and Pills, experienc'd above 50 Years, to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Scurvies, Leproſies, Running of the Reins, and the moſt inveterate Venereal Diſeaſe, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or deſtructive Mercurial Preparations. Theſe incomparable Medicines need no Words to expreſs their Virtues; the many miſerable Ones, that have been happily cur'd, after given over by others, ſufficiently recommend them as the moſt ſovereign Remedy in the World againſt all ſuch Malignities. She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compaſſion to the Diſtreſs'd, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pills 1 s. the Box, with Directions; and Advice gratis. ¶ She lives at the Golden Ball in Hand-Court, over againſt Great Turn-Stile, in Holborn.

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*LONDON*, Printed for the Uſe of the Widow of the late Author, JOHN TUTCHIN.